

The Morgan State University High Performance Computing Summer Institute:

Foundation of Faculty/Student Technological and Scientific Investigations

Presented by

Dorothy Funches Russell
Eighth Annual MU-SPIN Conference
Albuquerque, New Mexico
October 20-22, 1998



Introduction

- The High Performance Computer Summer Institute (HPCSI) was initiated in 1994 as a program component of the WBHR Alliance for Minority Participation (AMP)
- Purpose of this AMP component was to enable undergraduates to participate in a wide range of research activities centered on the use of advanced computing technologies
- Jointly funded by the NSF and NASA



Goals of the HPCSI

- Enhance the computing skills and expertise of the undergraduate (ug) SEM students
- Promote the use of advanced computing technologies in the ug educational experience, research and in the classroom
- Develop graduates who will enter the workforce capable of applying advanced computing technologies to challenging problems
- Develop SEM graduates who are uniquely equipped to pursue advanced degrees



- Eight weeks in length residential
- Consists of two major components:
 - intensive training in computational techniques
 - research promotion through a carefully selected set of projects that span several disciplines
- Includes weekly seminars and professional development training
- Culminates in a SEM undergraduate research symposium



Value of the HPCSI

- Broadens the education of the participants
- Grants students an opportunity to engage in computing on a variety of computational platforms
- Provides hands on experience in high performance computing
- Infuses research experiences into ug education



Impact of the HPCSI

- Exposes participants to a full range of research activities
 - defining the research project
 - researching the subject matter
 - experimentation and validation
 - documentation of the project
 - presentations
 - paper submissions to conferences & journals



Intended Outcomes of the HPCSI

- Introduce ug students to the joys, rigor, and demands of SEM research
- Build a foundation for graduate study and the research involved in graduate study
- Prepare students to seize professional opportunities including employment and/or participation in regional and national SEM related conferences



Sample Titles of Research Pursued by Undergraduate Students During the Summers of 1997 & 1998

- Modeling of Flow Separation around Single and Arrayed Bluff Bodies
- Determining Lithology Using an Information Processing Model
- Finite Element Analysis of Liquid Storage Tanks: A Parametric Study
- Simulation of Solid State Ultraviolet Photodetectors for Earth Observing Instruments



Extension of the MSU HPCSI Model to other HBCUs/MIs

- Involve others HBCUs, HSIs, and Tribal Colleges
- The other HBCU/MI student participation model
- The other HBCU/MI faculty and student model
 - allows for student research to continue when they return to their home institution
 - Enable faculty to engage in research employing high performance computing technologies to complement experimentation and theory



Extension of the MSU HPCSI Model con't.

- The MSU HPCSI Model holds the potential for future sharing of scarce resources and to foster cross-cultural & collaborative experiences
 - MSU Cray J-90 & Visualization Software
 - Distributed modeling and simulation using the MU-SPIN network
 - -Teaching courses across MU-SPIN member institutions



Summary of Program Achievements

- In excess of eighty (80) ug students have participated in HPCSI in the past five years
- 33% of HPCSI graduating participants have entered graduate studies
- 50% of the 1998 participants are now engaged in research during this academic year
- 15 students have presented at national or regional research conferences



Summary of Program Achievements con,t.

- Has resulted in 1 faculty supported research project each year since its third year
- Has led to the funding of other Research



Further Information

Ms. Dorothy Russell

Clarence M. Mitchell Jr.-School of Engineering

Morgan State University

Baltimore, MD 21251

phone (443) 885-4225

fax: (410) 319-3843

email: russell@eng.morgan.edu